

STANDING COMMITTEE ON MEMBER SERVICES

The Standing Committee on Member Services oversees the implementation of strategies and programmes that enhance members' benefits and interests. The Standing Committee met 12 times.

Law Firm Visits

The Director and the Assistant Director of Member Services paid visits to 68 law firms and met 110 members and their representatives from April to June. They received many well-thought suggestions which were taken into account by the Standing Committee in the design and implementation of its programmes and initiatives.

Lunch Talks

The Standing Committee organized a series of luncheon talks. Prominent speakers included Mr. Andrew Look, Mr. Shih Wing Ching, Mr. Stephen Selby and many others speaking on a variety of topics.



Luncheon Talk by Mr. Andrew Look on "2009 Market and Economic Outlook"



Luncheon Talk by Mr. Shih Wing Ching "The Poverty of Management"



Luncheon Talk by Mr. Stephen Selby, Director of Intellectual Property Department HKSAR on Intellectual Capital Management

New Members' Section in The Law Society's website

A new Members' Section in The Law Society's homepage with more functionality has been developed which is updated from time to time.

Practice Support

The Standing Committee worked jointly with other committees on practice issues. Its work included co-organizing CJR Discussion Session with the Civil Litigation Committee on 11 May and creating the 'Mediation' section in The Law Society's website. The Standing Committee also arranged a free trial of online research systems for members.

Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Standing Committee and their attendance at meetings during the year (in brackets):

IP Shing Hing (<i>Chairman</i>)	(11/12)	Daphne F.Y. LO	(6/12)
Ambrose S.K. LAM (<i>Vice-Chairman</i>)	(9/12)	Billy W.Y. MA	(4/12)
David C.W. CHEUNG	(*6/12)	Melissa K. PANG	(8/12)
Frederick K.C. KAN	(5/12)	Cecilia K.W. WONG	(9/12)
Andrew S.K. LAW	(5/12)	WONG Kwok Yan	(5/12)
Angela W.Y. LEE	(9/12)		

Secretary : Director of Member Services

* on official duties from October to December

CZECH INTEREST GROUP

Since the formation of the Czech Interest Group, The Law Society has established good relations with the Czech Consulate General in Hong Kong. The Group has been consulted from time to time by the Consulate General on legal matters and invited to social and cultural functions organized by the Consulate General.

Members of the Interest Group:

Frederick K.C. KAN (<i>Chairman</i>)	Christine M.K. KOO
Sherman K.N. CHAN	Beatrice LIN
Serina K.S. CHAN	May M.Y. LUN
Cindy C.S. CHIU	Timothy T.T. MA
Elaine Y.L. HO	Martin John WALDRON

Secretary : Director of Member Services

Standing Committee on Member Services

HONG KONG LAWYER EDITORIAL BOARD

Members of the Editorial Board met monthly and worked closely with LexisNexis, the publisher of *Hong Kong Lawyer*, to monitor the overall quality and standard of the publication and to identify topics of interest to the profession. In June, members discussed issues on redesign of the journal including the cover and its internal designs; a brand new edition of the journal was re-launched in September. In addition, a new *Hong Kong Lawyer* website www.hk-lawyer.com was also re-launched to provide new features to make it more user-friendly. The Board and the publisher invite members' feedback to the new editions of the journal and its website.

Members of the Committee:

Lester G. HUANG (*Chairman appointed in June*)

Bonnie S.Y. CHAN (*retired in April*)

Charles C.C. CHAU

Brendan CLIFT (*Editor*)

Raymond HO

Julienne JEN (*appointed in December*)

Angela W.Y. LEE

Hans MAHNCKE

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

George Y.C. MOK

Michael PHILLIPS (*retired in April*)

Anne SCULLY-HILL

Thomas S.T. SO

Michelle TSANG

Michael WILKINSON

Cecilia K.W. WONG

WONG Tak Shing

LAW SOCIETY CLUBHOUSE

The Committee has been actively exploring ways to improve the patronage and utilisation of the Clubhouse. A number of lunch talks were organized at the Clubhouse, and more functions including cocktail receptions and seminars will be organized.

Members of the Committee:

IP Shing Hing (*Chairman*)

Frederick K.C. KAN

Helen Y.H. KONG

Leo SEEWALD (*resigned in November*)

Secretary : Clubhouse Manager

Melissa K. PANG

Peter K.C. YIP

Raymond C.K. HO

William H.C. TSUI

Standing Committee on Member Services

MEMBER BENEFIT COMMITTEE

The Member Benefit Committee works towards identifying needed services and benefits for Law Society members. The Committee's work ranges from improving personal well-being of Law Society members to business promotion and development for the profession. The Committee has organized the following activities and events during the year:

Racing Club Cocktail Night

The Committee jointly organized a Members' Cocktail Night with the Racing Club on 11 November. Over 100 members participated and enjoyed a memorable night out at The Racing Club, Happy Valley Racecourse.



President Huen Wong gave the Opening Remarks



Mr. Ng Kwok Wing and Mr. Fred Kan on the Talk Show "講男講女"

On line Survey on Medical and Life Insurance

The Committee launched a survey in September and November to gauge the underserved needs of members. 99 members completed the on-line questionnaires. Based on the survey result, the Committee will explore the feasibility and benefits of group insurance to members on the most needed product(s).

Book fairs

The Committee has organized the following book fairs during the year:

24-26 June	Book Fair with The Commercial Press
29 & 30 October	Book Fair (Legal Titles) with Sweet & Maxwell, Thomson Reuters
16 & 17 December	Book Fair (Legal Titles) with Sweet & Maxwell, Thomson Reuters

Standing Committee on Member Services

Bulk Book Purchase of White Book and other Hot Titles

Members benefited by exercising their collective purchasing power in ordering legal titles from The Law Society, including The Hong Kong White Book 2009 and other must-have titles for law libraries.

Special rates for Online Legal Research Systems

The Committee successfully bargained for some preferential rates for small to medium sized firms to subscribe Westlaw and LexisNexis online research systems.

Members of the Committee:

Frederick K.C. KAN (*Chairman*)

Anthea P.Y. CHAN (*resigned in November*)

Bonita B.Y. CHAN

David C.W. CHEUNG

Ambrose S.K. LAM

Angela W.Y. LEE

Secretary : Director of Member Services

Daphne F.Y. LO

Patrick MOSS

Melissa K. PANG

Adamas WONG

WONG Kwok Yan

YU Tat Man (*joined in December*)

MAINLAND INTEREST GROUP

During the year, the Mainland Interest Group had good exchanges with officials of the Central Government Offices and various provincial and municipal authorities, Mainland judges and representatives from Mainland lawyers associations. Members also participated in the 2009 Cross Straits Four Regions Lawyers Summit and various roadshows in Mainland to promote Hong Kong legal system and services.

Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Interest Group:

Henry K.W. CHAN

May W.M. CHAN

Selwyn C.Y. CHAN

Serina K.S. CHAN

Sherman K.N. CHAN

Matthew (Jian) CHEN

Neville C.H. CHENG

Julianne DOE

Lincoln S.Y. HO

Dennis S.K. HU

HUA Yichun

KONG Chung Yau

Secretary : Director of Member Services

Christine M.K. KOO

Kenneth T.L. LAM

LEE Hung Sang

Steven K. LEE

Daniel N.C. LEUNG

Michelle P.Y. LIU

TAN Lu Hua

WONG Lai Ming

WONG Sincere

Victor C.K. YAU

Ernest K.L. YUEN

PRACTICE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

The Practice Management Committee is dedicated to serving members in best-practice endeavours, which include starting up a legal practice and running it, increasing profitability of law firms, implementing good practice systems, managing risks in practice, enhancing the services given by a practice to its clients, improving the morale and motivation of its staff, and financial and information management. It works to help law practices to achieve practice management excellence, including formulating guidelines and practice manuals, organizing training programmes seminars and conferences on practice management.

During the year, the Committee deliberated on a number of management topics of special interest to members including unclaimed clients money, electronic filing of active files, networking on the internet, cessation agent and storage of files.

The Committee organizes regular lunch meetings with partners of small to medium sized firms and sole proprietors to hear their needs on law firm management.

Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Committee:

Ambrose S.K. LAM (*Chairman*)

Patrick M. BURKE

Eliza L.S. CHANG (*joined in August*)

David J. FLEMING

IP Shing Hing

Helen Y.H. KONG

Amirali B. NASIR

Elaine Y.M. LO (*joined in May*)

Secretary : Director of Member Services

NG Ching Wo

Kenneth S.Y. NG

Melissa K. PANG

Peter K.P. SIT

Thomas S.T. SO (*resigned in May*)

Virginia M.L. TAM

Huen WONG

YEUNG Man Sing

RECREATION AND SPORTS COMMITTEE

The Committee works to promote and encourage members to take part in various sports and recreational activities.

The year kicked off with *the 3rd Guangdong Hong Kong and Macau Lawyers Athletic Meet* which took place in Hong Kong in January. Over 250 delegates from Guangdong, Macau and Hong Kong participated in seven sports competitions. To highlight the importance of lawyers from the three jurisdictions working in unison, the participants joined hands and broke the Guinness World Record for the Largest Three Legged Race: this was also the first new Guinness World Record in 2009!

During the year, five new activities were added to the Recreation and Sports programme to accommodate the interest of more members. Activities include badminton, basketball, dragon boat, golf, snooker, soccer, swimming, table-tennis, tennis, tenpin bowling, trail walk, volleyball, chess, Chinese calligraphy, cooking, food and wine appreciation, dancing, live band, singing and yoga. Over 600 members participated in the programme.

Other than participating in regular practice sessions, members had good exchange with other professionals through participating in inter-professional tournaments.

In addition, non regular activities were organized for members to participate such as *the 33rd New Year Winter Swimming Lifesaving Championship 2009*, *Saint Joseph Anniversary Soccer Competition 2009*, *60th National Day Celebration Dragon Boat Invitational Race*, *The 5th Cross Strait Lawyers' Golf Tournament*, *Oxfam Trailwalker 2009*, *the 4th Law and Order Cup* and *Law Society Live Band Christmas Concert*.

Standing Committee on Member Services

To mark the success of another fruitful year, the Committee organized *the 4th Recreation and Sports Night* in September at the Hong Kong Football Club. The theme of the Night was “Evolution”. Over 400 members and guests attended this funfilled event.



Delegates from Guangdong Lawyers Association, Macau Lawyers Association and The Law Society of Hong Kong get ready to break the Guinness World Record for “the Largest Three Legged Race”



The Tennis Team with their champions trophy after winning the Joint Professional Tennis Tournament 2009.



Chinese calligraphy performance during the Annual Recreation and Sports Night



The Trailwalker teams raised around HKD150,000 in the Oxfam Trailwalker 2009



Law Society Live Band Christmas Concert



The Dancing Team

Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Committee:

Ambrose S.K. LAM (*Chairman*)

CHAN Chak Ming

Maxwell CHAN

Nicholas H.F. CHAN

Eliza L.S. CHANG

Eleanor CHENG

Annivia O.L. CHIANG

Anthony W.K. CHOW

Brian P.C. HO

Stephen W.S. HUNG

Secretary: Member Services Officer

Eric IP

Frederick K.C. KAN

Stephanie W.Y. LAU

Melissa K. PANG

Audrey S. PHUA

Dora M.L. YEUNG

Peter K.C. YIP

Stella YIU

Vivian Y.Y. YU

TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE

The Technology Committee works to provide more technology knowhow and services to members. It met six times and held three seminars/talks which were well received by members. More hands-on sessions will be organized in the coming years to meet members' demand.

19 March	Seminar on new PDF file Management – “PDFDOCS”
28 September	Luncheon Talk by Dr Hon Samson Tam, Legislative Councilor (Information Technology): Net Generation Lawyers Service
3 December	Luncheon Talk by Mr. Kenneth V. Nourse on Electronically Stored Information



Standing Committee on Member Services

Members of the Committee:

Andrew S.K. LAW (*Chairman*)

Nicholas H.F. CHAN (*joined in April*)

Barry C.Y. CHIN

Gabriela KENNEDY

Pamela F. KU

Secretary : Director of Member Services

William W.S. LAM

Steven K. LEE (*joined in April*)

Amirali B. NASIR

Peter K. TSE (*resigned in February*)

YOUNG SOLICITORS' GROUP (YSG)

YSG was established as a Sub-committee of the Standing Committee on Member Services to cater for the needs and interests of members of less than five years' standing. One of the aims is to encourage communication between young members and to facilitate dialogue between them and senior members of the profession. YSG organised the following events and activities during the year:

CPD Seminar

In January, YSG co-organised a seminar "*One Day Seminar on Contract Management*" with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, The Institution of Civil Engineers Hong Kong Association, The Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers, The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors. The seminar was delivered by fellow members and other professionals.

Friday Lunches

Members had the opportunity to meet socially through informal lunch gatherings in The Law Society's Clubhouse and also met with members of Council, the Standing Committee on Member Services and the YSG. 8 lunches were organized.



Welcome Drinks to New Members

In November, YSG organised a drinks gathering to welcome first year trainee members. More than 80 trainee members participated and met with Council members, YSG committee members and Law Society secretariat staff. The event not only served as a platform for communication and networking among young members but also enhanced their knowledge of the role of The Law Society. The welcome drinks will be an annual event for the new members in the years to come.

Standing Committee on Member Services



Community activities

Lantau “Say No to Drugs” Project

In September, YSG, together with the Law Association, Hong Kong University Student Union (HKUSU), co-organized an anti-drug project with the Hong Kong Police Force, Lantau District, Lantau District Fight Crime Committee and Lantau District Junior Police Call. The project aimed to send an anti-drug abuse message to the secondary students within the Lantau District. The programmes included a video-clip competition, seminars, exhibitions, skills training and experimental learning. The Lantau Police and YSG shared in the supervision of this project. The law students of HKUSU acted as consultants to the secondary students in preparing for the video-clip competition. Members of YSG gave talks to students on drug-related legal issues. YSG also contributed financially to support the provision of souvenirs and prizes. A prize presentation event is scheduled to be held on 5 February 2010.



Social activities

YSG Dragon Boat Championships 2009

For the fourth year, YSG organized a Dragon Boat Team to participate in the “Stanley Dragon Boat Championships 2009” on 28 May. Around 30 members and their friends joined the competition.

Standing Committee on Member Services



Gatherings with young professionals

YSG has jointly organized a cross professional drinks with the YPIG of the Hong Kong Institute of Certified Public Accountants and the YAC of the Hong Kong Institute of Architects at Pi Club on 6 March with the theme “Meet the professional – Part III”.

Cocktail and Spirits Tasting

YSG co-organized a Cocktail and Spirits Tasting event with the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers, the Institution of Civil Engineers, the Chartered Institution of Building Services Engineers, Chartered Institute of Arbitrators and The Hong Kong Institute of Surveyors.



Members of the Committee:

Cecilia K.W. WONG (*Chairman*)

Vitus W.H. LEUNG (*Vice-Chairman*)

Kajal ASWANI

Bonnie J.Y. CHAN

Serina K.S. CHAN

Charles C.C. CHAU

Secretary: Assistant Director, Member Services

Nadine LAI (*joined in August*)

Tracy N.L. LAM (*retired in July*)

Stephanie W.Y. LAU

Lynn LEE

Winnie W.S LO (*joined in August*)

TAI Kam Cheung (*joined in August*)



Member Services Department